

**Public Works
Storm Water Utility****(1) Service Community Outreach****(2) Division/Section Community Outreach****(3) Program Element (a) TPDES**

1. Public education/public participation
2. Illicit discharges and improper disposal NFIP

(4) Statement of Purpose

The Clean Water Act of 1972 charged the Federal Government with taking charge of regulating the surface water quality of the nation's waterways. It set maximum extent practical standards for all non-point source discharges into the regulated waterways, and required such discharges to receive a permit through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). Storm Water runoff is a non-point source discharge. San Antonio received an NPDES permit in February of 1996. Surface water quality education is a required portion of this permit. The permit's Storm Water Management Program requirement (6)(c) states that the permittees shall ensure the implementation of a program to reduce the discharge of floatables. (6)(d) The discharge or disposal of used motor vehicle fluids, household hazardous wastes, grass clippings, leaf litter, and animal wastes into separate storm sewers shall be prohibited. (10) States that a public education program with the following elements shall be implemented: a program to promote, publicize and facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or improper disposal of materials, the proper management and disposal of used oil and household hazardous wastes and the proper use, application and disposal of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers. Public education performed by Community Outreach, consists of brochures, pamphlets, training sessions and public meetings to educate the adult community on storm water related activities and services, TPDES permitting responsibilities, flood insurance, floodplain development requirements, and drainage projects and services specific to individual watersheds. There exists a memorandum of agreement with SAWS that delineates responsibilities for public education in order to eliminate unnecessary redundancy. Public education is also a vital requirement as participants in the National Flood Insurance Program and is necessary to participate in the Community Rating System.

(5) Description of Actions (Statement of Services)

Compliance with the public education requirement of the NPDES permit is achieved through coordination with other city departments as well as outside organizations. Approximately 140 educational presentations per fiscal year to include community meetings, school presentations, City of San Antonio employee education and special events are conducted. Presentations consist of distribution of written materials, demonstration of a watershed model, videos or open discussion.